

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action, the Examiner noted that claims 1-20 are pending in the application; that claims 1-15 are rejected; and that claims 16-20 are withdrawn from consideration. By this response, claims 1 and 8 have been amended.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by *Hayward, et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,798,997). Independent claims 1 and 8 have been amended to add "a server having a centralized management database..." including part numbers for consumables and alternative part numbers for alternative consumables. The user interaction site is further configured to enable a user to retrieve an alternative part number from the database for an alternative consumable for one of the at least one peripheral device. Support for the amendments is found at least at page 15, lines 11-25 and Figures 4A and 4B.

Nowhere are the amended features of claims 1 and 8, along with the remaining claim limitations taught or suggested by the prior art of record.

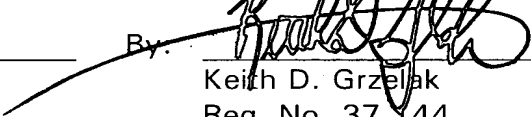
Independent claims 1 and 8 are believed to be allowable. Dependent claims 2-7 and 9-15 are also believed to be allowable. Action to that end is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

For all the reasons advanced above, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, and action to that end is respectfully requested. If the Examiner's next anticipated action is to be anything other than a Notice of Allowance, the undersigned respectfully requests a telephone interview before issuance of any such subsequent action.

Respectfully submitted,

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